

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-18 are all the claims pending in the application, prior to the present Amendment.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 to 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over WO 2004/011553 to Iwakiri et al.

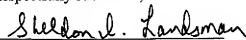
Claims 17 and 18 were not included in this rejection and have been indicated by the Examiner to be allowable. Accordingly, applicants have amended claim 1 to include the recitations of claim 18 and have canceled claim 18.

Applicant submits that this rejection has been overcome in view of the amendment to claim 1 and, accordingly, requests withdrawal of this rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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